

Lesson
5

Irregular Verbs

Teaching

Irregular verbs are verbs whose past and past participle are not formed by adding *-ed* or *-d* to the present. The five sections of this chart show different patterns used to form the past and past participles of many irregular verbs.

	Present	Past	Past Participle		Present	Past	Past Participle
Group 1 The forms of the present, past, & past participle are same	burst cost hurt let put set shut	burst cost hurt let put set shut	(have) burst (have) cost (have) hurt (have) let (have) put (have) set (have) shut	Group 4 The past participle is formed from the present, often adding <i>-n</i> , <i>-en</i> , or <i>-ne</i> .	do eat fall five go know run see take throw	did ate fell gave went knew ran saw took threw	(have) done (have) eaten (have) fallen (have) given (have) gone (have) known (have) run (have) seen (have) taken (have) thrown
Group 2 The forms of past & past participle are same	bring catch get lead sit	brought caught got led sat	(has) brought (has) caught (has) got (has) led (has) sat	Group 5 The last vowel changes from <i>i</i> in the present to <i>a</i> in the past, to <i>u</i> in the past participle.	begin drink ring sing sink swim	began drank rang sang sunk swam	(have) begun (have) drunk (have) rung (have) sung (have) sunk (have) swum
Group 3 The past participle is formed by adding <i>-n</i> or <i>-en</i> to the past.	break choose freeze lie speak wear	broke chose froze lay spoke wore	(have) broken (have) chosen (have) frozen (have) lain (have) spoken (have) worn				

The different forms of the verb *be* do not follow any pattern.

Present	Past	Past Participle
am, is, are	was, were	(have) been

Using the Correct Forms of Irregular Verbs

Underline the correct verb form of the two in parentheses.

- The judges have (chose, chosen) the finalists.
- Our mayor has not (broke, broken) any promises.
- Everyone (drank, drunk) milk with the sandwiches.
- Soccer fans (began, begun) to fill the stands an hour before the game.
- Have you (brung, brought) your application with you?
- We (did, done) an experiment showing the effects of global warming.
- Rabbits (ate, eaten) most of the lettuce in our garden.
- I haven't (gave, given) my poetry reading yet.
- My summer vacation certainly (went, gone) quickly.
- Very few people (knew, known) about the secret room.
- Grapes have (grew, grown) in this valley for years.
- The last of the marathon entrants has (run, ran) past the finish line.

Irregular Verbs

More Practice

A. Using the Correct Forms of Irregular Verbs

Underline the correct verb form of the two in parentheses.

1. The barbershop quartet (sang, sung) in close harmony.
2. I (saw, seen) a hilarious sitcom on television last night.
3. My teacher must have (spoke, spoken) to the coach.
4. The soprano (took, taken) an extra breath for her high notes.
5. The seal (swam, swum) to the rocky island.
6. Two players were (threw, thrown) out of the game.
7. A burgler has (stole, stolen) the diamond jewelry.
8. Jane (wrote, written) several papers on the computer last week.
9. The milk must have (froze, frozen) on the porch.
10. A baby robin has (fell, fallen) out of the nest.
11. The principal (rang, rung) the fire alarm.
12. We have (shook, shaken) the tree to get some apples to fall.

B. Writing the Correct Forms of Verbs

Decide which form is needed: the present participle, the past, or the past participle of each verb given in parentheses. Write the correct form on the line.

EXAMPLE The squirrels have (steal) the birdfeed. *stolen*

1. Amiko (choose) her library books yesterday. _____
2. My favorite jeans have (begin) to wear out. _____
3. Someone (break) that valuable Chinese vase. _____
4. Why didn't you (bring) your skateboard? _____
5. The cattle have (eat) the corn and oats. _____
6. Patty has (do) twice as much research as Ron. _____
7. No, I have never (drink) coconut milk. _____
8. Another spacecraft (go) into orbit around the moon. _____
9. My father has (give) me a new pair of skates. _____
10. My hair (grow) two inches during the vacation. _____

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Application

A. Writing the Correct Forms of Verbs

Decide which form of the verb given in parentheses is needed. Write the correct form on the line. Identify the form you used by writing **Present**, **Past**, or **PP** for *past participle*.

EXAMPLE The horse (spring) into action at Roy's call. *sprang, Past*

1. Currently, the police (know) of no motive for the crime. _____
2. Have you (speak) to anyone about your vacation plans? _____
3. Who (see) your solar calculator last? _____
4. The senior choir has (sing) a medley of show tunes. _____
5. Our lawn mower (run) out of gas before I finished the lawn. _____
6. Who could have (steal) such a heavy statue? _____
7. I have (write) several poems for the school newspaper. _____
8. The team (swim) warm-up laps before the meet. _____
9. Who has (take) the schedule off the bulletin board? _____
10. The skittish pony (throw) everyone who tries to ride it. _____

B. Proofreading for the Correct Forms of Verbs

Draw a line through each incorrect verb form in this paragraph. Draw this proofreading symbol ✎ next to the error and, in the spaces between lines of type, write the correct form of the verb.

EXAMPLE In the past, Dad has ~~went~~^{gone} ice fishing with my uncle.

Last weekend I went ice-fishing for the first time with my dad and nearly freezed to death. I weared two pairs of wool socks, but needed about four. For six hours, we sitted in this little hut and fished through a hole in the ice, but the fish weren't biting. After a while, I begun to get hungry. When I told my dad, he opened a can of cold sardines, and we eat them with some stale crackers.